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McGUIRE BANNER



McGUIRE GENERAL HOSPITAL

Vol. III

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1945

No. 2

Neurosurgery Section Chief Reports Activity

Admissions to McGuire's neurosurgery section, one of the largest in the nation, reached a total of 2,332 as of last October 1, Lt. Col. Robert C. L. Robertson, chief of the section, disclosed this week.

He also reported that nearly 1,500 operations have been performed. The exact figure Oct. 1 was 1,287 and upwards of 100 have been performed since then.

This large group of patients have been treated in a period of less than eight months as the section was not established at McGuire until last February 17. It was transferred here from Brooke General Hospital, Ft. Sam Houston, Texas, where Col. Robertson had organized it two years previously.

Many of the patients are continuing to receive treatment as the type of cases handled by the section usually require months—and in some instances years—until recovery is assured.

Most of the patients are combat veterans, having received injuries to the brain, spinal cord or peripheral nerves. These nerves branch from the brain and spinal cord.

Practically all of the patients are partially paralyzed and suffer from loss of sensation.

Some can't move their fingers. Others can't move their feet up or down. Some can't bend their arms or legs.

"Each nerve has a specific muscle group it supplies," Col. Robertson said. "The extent of paralysis, therefore, depends on whether the injured nerve was a major or minor one."

He explained that nerves not severed usually can be restored to normalcy in from three to months but a severe cut to a major nerve may require as long as two years.

The higher the location of the nerve in the body structure, the longer it takes to repair it. For instance, it is easier to heal a nerve injury in the foot than one in the thigh.

A total of 539 operations have been performed on peripheral nerves at McGuire.

In these operations, Col. Robertson explained, the ends of the severed nerve are joined with very fine wire. This wire is .003 of an inch thick—about the diameter of a human hair.

The nerve fibers grow down from the point of injury at the rate of about an inch a month. The next step, then, is to induce the nerve to reenter the muscle.

"Sometimes this is difficult and rarely impossible because the muscle has become too seriously degenerated through lack of use," Col. Robertson said. "To prevent this degeneration, patients are given physiotherapy treatments."

Head injuries accounted for 129 of the operations. In these cases a metal plate of tantalum .015 inches thick is used. It is often necessary to replace bone in the skull with this metal and frequently calls for surgery within the brain itself.

Another large group of patients—97 in all—were operated upon for herniated nucleus pulposus. This means that the patient has suffered damage to the disc between two vertebrae usually as the result of lifting a heavy object or some unusual movement of the back which ruptured the disc.

Hospital Unit on Way

The 60th Station Hospital unit, with a complement of 157 enlisted men and 46 officers, is scheduled to arrive at McGuire within the next few days for extended field service.

The unit has been stationed at Camp Sibert, Ala.



Lt. Elizabeth A. Dean
CO of the WAC Detachment

Lt. Dean Assumes WAC Command

First Lt. Elizabeth A. Dean, recently commanding officer of the WAC Hospital Company at Edgewood Arsenal, Md., has been named to succeed Capt. Dorothy C. O'Hare as commanding officer of the two WAC companies here.

Lt. Dean, in arriving here to assume her duties, was pleased to find an old friend and former co-worker. First Sgt. Thelma Diven of the local WAC companies and Lt. Dean had been associated in WAC recruiting in the Philadelphia area where the lieutenant had been assigned as recruiting officer. Prior to that berth, Lt. Dean was commanding officer of a physiotherapy company of Wacs at the University of Pittsburgh.

A native of Milwaukee, Wis., Lt. Dean is a graduate of Marquette University. As a civilian she was employed as chief clerk by the Milwaukee Bell Telephone Company until her entrance into the service in October, 1942.

Capt. O'Hare was relieved of her duties as commanding officer to report to Ft. Dix, N. J., for separation from the service. She had been stationed at McGuire since March, 1945.

Paraplegics Retain Needed Appliances

Permanently disabled patients, upon their discharge from Army hospitals, may retain any appliances then in their use which are necessary for their comfort and safety, according to a recent War Department bulletin.

Issued especially for the benefit of paraplegic patients, the bulletin specifies that hospital equipment which is classified as nonexpendable may be issued on authority of the bulletin, and expendable equipment may be issued to these patients at the discretion of the commanding officer of the hospital.

Some of the equipment listed includes adjustable hospital beds, Balkan frames, invalid chairs and innerspring mattresses and covers.

No reimbursement is required of the patients.

Corn Husking Bee

A glee club, consisting of twenty-one girls, and a hill billy band will appear in the Red Cross auditorium tomorrow evening at 7:00 o'clock.

The theatrical troupe is sponsored by the McCormick Co., of Baltimore.

PX Prepared For Yuletide Buying Spree

"We have a tremendous stock of merchandise—about four times as much as last Christmas."

So stated Capt. Max Dreyer, post exchange officer, upon his return this week from a holiday buying trip to New York and Philadelphia.

"Patients will find a bountiful array of holiday gifts at the PX at right prices," he said. "On my buying trip I was able to obtain many items that will not be found in civilian stores."

The Christmas specialties include the finest selection of costume jewelry ever offered by the PX. Fine pearl necklaces are also in stock.

Other items, some of them in the hard-to-get category, are toys, stuffed animals, spun aluminum trays and hostess sets, cigaret lighters of all types including roller, and an extensive line of box chocolates with Christmas wrappers. Fruit cakes and plum puddings are now on sale.

Capt. Dreyer said the PX stock of luggage was "very good" and the same was true of watches, including ladies' watches, military watches and nurses' watches with sweeping minute hands. A new shipment of electric razors is also on hand.

"While all of the items are being sold at low prices," Capt. Dreyer said, "a number of them, particularly clothing and other essential merchandise, have been reduced below cost."

He refused to comment on the nylon hosiery situation but hopes that a new shipment of radios will be received shortly.

Recently assigned to assist Capt. Dreyer at the PX is Capt. Alton J. Beatty, formerly assistant manager of the Sears-Roebuck store at Buffalo, N. Y. He had been a patient here for ten weeks.

Genuine Bank Notes

Giving the bankers' viewpoint as a special service to McGuire personnel, Clyde E. Harris of the Morris Plan Bank of Va., will discuss the various financial aspects of the GI Bill of Rights every Wednesday afternoon at 1:00 o'clock at the counseling center on ward 26.

30 Paraplegics to Fly Home on Xmas Leaves

Some thirty paraplegic patients are going home for Christmas by plane—thanks to the Army Air Forces and the Red Cross.

The patients will be flown home in transport planes supplied by the First Air Forces from the Richmond Air Base. They will be able to spend from seven to ten days at home during the holidays.

The trip home was approved in each case by the patients' doctor with the belief that a visit home would speed recovery. It would have been practically impossible for the patients to travel by any other means of transportation.

Arrangements for the flights were made by Capt. Charles Via, Jr., AAF liaison officer, in cooperation with Mrs. Harriet Anthony, field director of the Red Cross, and Capt. John M. Sisley, coordinator of the hospital's Christmas furlough plan.

One patient has already been flown to his home in Pittsburgh. Three more flights are scheduled. While the dates have been set, the actual take-off depends upon the weather and the condition of the patient.

The second flight, described as the southern route, is slated to take off tomorrow, with stops at Columbia, S. C., and Walterboro, S. C.

The northern flights are scheduled for December 20. One will

make stops at Wilmington, Del.; Philadelphia, Pa.; Newark, N. J.; Allentown, Pa., and Harrisburg, Pa.

The other flight, according to tentative plans, will stop at Pittsburgh, Pa.; Altoona, Pa., and Erie, Pa.

The Red Cross Motor Corps will supply transportation for the patients from the hospital to the Richmond Air Base. The patient will leave the plane at the airport nearest his home, where the Red Cross Motor Corps will again provide the transportation to his front porch.

The procedure will be reversed on the return trip.

Two hospital attendants will accompany the patients on each trip.

Capt. Via said that limited facilities at the Richmond Air Base, where only three planes are available, make it impossible to accommodate any additional patients.

Travel Agents Expedite Transport for Patients

Hospital patients with approved Christmas furloughs will be able to purchase their railroad and bus tickets next Friday at the Christmas Travel Bureau in the reconditioning office, Building 108.

Patients traveling by bus can obtain tickets from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Patients traveling by railroad can purchase tickets from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Capt. John M. Sisley, coordinator of the Christmas furlough program, pointed out that tomorrow is the final day for patients to apply for holiday furloughs. The applications must be brought personally by the patients to the travel bureau headquarters before noon.

The furloughs range from 21 to 33 days, including travel time, depending on the distance the patient has to cover. None will begin later than December 15, and none will end before January 4.

Capt. Sisley has made arrangements for representatives of the

various bus and railroad lines to be present in the travel bureau office one week from today.

"That's the only time the ticket sellers will be at the hospital," he said. "It is important, therefore, that patients make sure to call at the travel bureau at the designated time."

"The railroad and bus companies are going to considerable trouble to help us out. It is up to us to cooperate with them to the fullest extent."

When they pick up their tickets, the patients will be informed as to the time and place of departure of their bus or train.

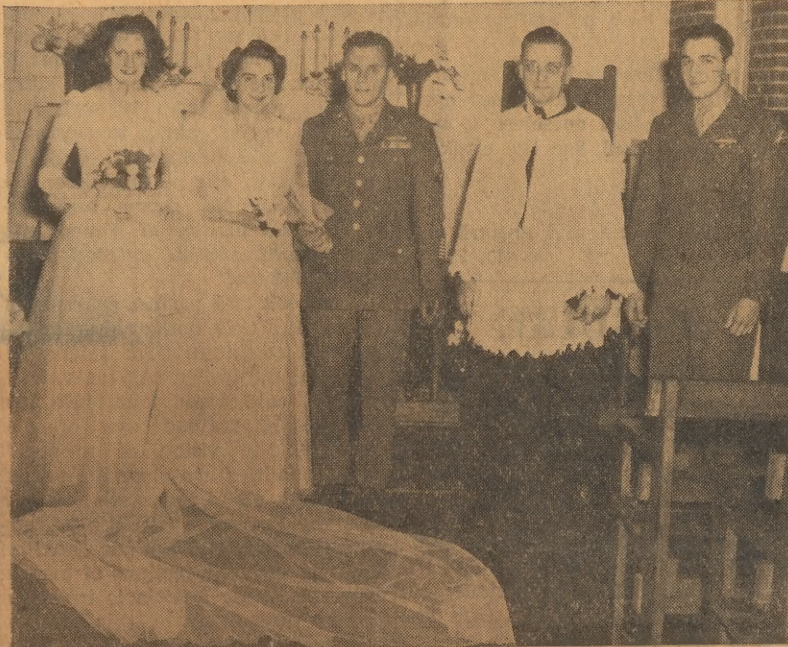
Lt. Pat Brewer, commanding officer, detachment of patients, announced that homeward-bound patients can pick up their clothing beginning at 6:00 a.m. on the day of their departure and can obtain their furloughs from his office beginning at 8:00 a.m. the same day.

Transportation will be provided for patients from the hospital to the railroad and bus stations. Vehicles will leave from the rear of the reconditioning warehouse (Building 420), which is opposite the baggage room.

Holiday Wrapping Aid for Patients

The Red Cross solves another holiday problem. Beginning December 1st the recreation lounge will serve as a gift wrapping center for those patients who feel their masculinity a bit above the complicated process of tying colored ribbon about a Christmas package.

Red Cross girls who will work in the lounge guarantee a result that would make Macy's wrapping department blush with shame. Wrapping services will be rendered with a smile and a sticky seal from ten 'till four every day except Sunday.



GI WEDDING—Discarding her uniform to assume the traditional wedding white, Detachment Wac T-5 Marian Heidinger became the bride of Sgt. Joseph Steffek, a patient in Ward 5. The wedding party included (from left to right) Bridesmaid Miss Caroline Thompson, the bride and groom, Chaplain J. J. Gredler, who officiated at the ceremony, and Pfc. Louis Chilandese, best man. The knot was tied on Thanksgiving Day at the post chapel.

McGUIRE BANNER

Published every Friday for the personnel of McGuire General Hospital by the Public Relations Office. Approved periodical number: APN-3-19-M.

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Writer's Cramp

Americans, long known as the world's most inventive people, have—perhaps without being aware of it—become slaves to the machines they invented to make life's little burdens less tedious.

For all the blessings brought to mankind with the discovery and perfection of radio, listeners have formed such strange aural habits as to delight the compounders of case histories.

Back in the infancy of radio, when each set was supplied with numerous earphones that could be divided among all the members of the family, providing each with a share of entertainment, our listening customs were formed. With the phones glued to our heads, we listened to the crude programs then being broadcast. We sat immobile near the radio, our zone of movement confined to the length of wire extending from the set to our head.

With the development of the loudspeaker, we found that we could roam the entire house and still stay tuned to the stations coming through the air. That's when the whole trouble began.

Let us clarify a point. We began to hear things rather than listen to them. We began to build mental barriers or filters which would permit to seep through only those programs which we favored, shutting off from our consciousness those other things in which we had a secondary interest.

The housewife could brighten her dull routine by experiencing the adventures or sharing the problems of all those poor, bewildered folk who dwell only in the studios of the day-time radio programs known as soap operas.

Long before the advent of Hitler, radio discovered that any belief could be implanted if repeated a sufficient number of times. Thus was born the one-minute singing commercial heard between every station-break.

Radio is all things to all listeners and, upon closer examination, nothing to any of them but background music acting as a phony counterpoint to a world already off pitch.

Geared as it is to almost continual operation, radio must present programs as ethereal as the medium which wafts them from studio to living-room. A "show" is created, is aired for fifteen, thirty or sixty minutes and is heard no more. It is over. And in the homes, the shops and the automobiles, on the roads—wherever there are listeners—the insatiable audience sits, demanding more, hearing all, listening to nothing.

Meals are cooked, love is made, people get born or buried, murders are committed; and all the time in the background, like the voice of the dark angels, the radio pours forth its message.

We will concede that radio is here to stay. Further, we will take a stand right now by declaring that we will find it preferable to television. Television. There, now, is something! On a screen a foot square will be brought to us all the delights that weary eyes will be able to perceive. They can have our share right now!

Where in the old days we were prisoners of our ears, with television we will be held enthralled by our eyes. In the privacy of our own homes we will be haunted by eyes that peer right into our most intimate activities. Not to be outdone, we shall have to plant ourselves four-square in front of the blamed thing and stare right back. Whatever illusions radio may foster will be dispelled by the reliability of sight.

No longer will audiences in studios give out with hearty laughter at the mere raising of a card held over the head of an announcer. Jokes will have to be funnier. Characters will have to look, as well as sound, genuine.

But, Lord, spare us from the kind of compulsion that will make us witnesses of some of the atrocities that will be thrust before our eyes. When that time comes—may it be distant—we'll find ourselves a cave somewhere and start carving pictures on a stone wall, for the clock of mankind will have come full circle.

You blow through here and the music goes around and around and it comes out here.

—D. F.

McGUIRE On the Air

OPEN HOUSE AT McGUIRE

Saturday 5:00-5:30 p.m. WRVA

HEAR special music by McGuire Band.

MONKEYSHINES AT McGUIRE

Wednesday, 7:30-8:00 p.m. WRNL

HEAR AND SEE this hilarious quiz show at the Red Cross. Fun begins at 7 p.m.

OKAY AMERICA

Tues., Oct. 23, 9:30-10 p.m. WRVA

HEAR and SEE this entertaining Show starring patients and me'd by Joe Brown, transcribed in ARC auditorium. Show begins at 7 p.m.

By Major R. A. Murphy

Q. I want to work and save some money so I can go to school under the GI Bill in style. How soon after discharge must I apply?

A. You must apply for educational benefits within 2 years of discharge, or 2 years after the war is officially declared over, whichever is later.

Q. Do you have to pay income taxes on mustering-out pay and disability pensions?

A. No. They're exempt from payment. So is compensation received by a veteran's family.

Q. I am thinking of entering the hotel business when discharged. Would you say that this business is expanding?

A. Hotels have been hard-hit for labor during the war, and now they are expanding their staffs. They employ room clerks, engineers, kitchen and dining room personnel, many others. James F. Walsh, manager, New York office, American Hotel Assn., writes: "Hotels throughout the nation employed approximately 60,000 people before World War II, and it is expected that this number will be increased considerably—I would say not less than 10 per cent. One of the reasons for the increase in personnel is that hotels are continuously increasing their services to guests."

Q. I expect to have my NSL insurance converted when I get out. Am I free to have any life insurance company handle my policy?

A. National Service Life Insurance policies are not converted to policies with private companies. Whether you convert it or retain the term insurance as issued originally to servicemen, the government through the Veterans Administration, writes the policy.

By Suzanne McLaurin Connell

Are you suffering from a jaded appetite caused by a monotonous literary diet? Are you looking for a really good book—something which will be an experience in reading, not just another pastime? If so, you are looking for "Immortal Village," by Donald Culross Peattie.

"Immortal Village" is an outstanding book. It is the delightful story of Venice, a village in Provence which has lived through so much of French history from the stone ages to the present time. Mr. Peattie discovered this "Immortal Village" some years ago and wrote about it in a book entitled "Venice, The story of a Provencal town through five thousand years," which was printed privately and circulated only in France; now, the author has enlarged upon his theme and developed his history of Venice into this revised edition entitled "Immortal Village."

This book is a perfect example of one of Peattie's outstanding qualities—his combination of talents as poet and naturalist. As his wife, a novelist, said about him, "He has the keenly trained eye of the scientist, the vision of a poet." These qualities are clearly revealed here as in all of his works; he has observed Provence with the perception of a scientist and has written about it with the feelings of a poet. Donald Culross Peattie is indeed a worthy interpreter of this land of the troubadours and has described his subject perfectly.

As an added attraction, this book is beautifully illustrated with wood-blocks by Paul Landacre. They are an ideal accompaniment for the subject and style and are another factor in making "Immortal Village" a "must" on your reading list.

The Wolf by Sansone

"Hmph! Who's interested in books!"

BY JOE and JOSIE McGUIRE

We've a sad tale to relate. Several weeks ago we inscribed the immortal lines concerning the devotion of S-Sgt. Earl Rackoff towards his trusty two-wheeled steed, that gaily painted little bicycle he kept next to his bedside.

Whether our lines here were the inspiration for the heinous crime we're about to describe, we'll never know, probably. But crime it was, indeed.

"Padre," as Earl is called lovingly by his barracks mates, has reported that his bike is gone; lost, strayed or stolen. He enlists the aid of this pillar to help round up the culprits.

Lt. Thompson is also known to be interested and, for all we know, may have a committee of vigilantes or a posse or what have you scouring the adjacent countryside for the thing.

Rackoff has borne his loss gracefully and wishes only to recover his "buddy." Information leading to the return of the thing dead or alive is earnestly solicited.

From Josie McGuire we glean the following intelligence.

Our Josie says that feudin' days didn't end with the era of the Martins and McCoys. Friendly relationships have been severed between the Wacs of the two wings in barracks one. Daily battles rage furiously. The cause—Jellybean, a tawny kitten who is the property of "Scarlett" Proctor, right wing.

Jellybean has a cattish habit of leaping upon sleeping Wacs of the left wing, and many is the time that the freckled cheek of Sgt. Marcia Orloff has been caressed in the wee morning hours by a sharp claw.

"We're going to use him for kindlin wood," threatens Orloff and her fellow suffers, while Proctor, the humanitarian and her allies retaliate with threats of horrible revenge.

Jellybean refuse to comment on the situation, but appears to be a bit confused.

The other ayem we received a letter in the mails addressed to both of us by a pen pal. The writer, evidently a Wac, felt that this column was neglecting her sister soldiers and suggested that the BANNER publish a column devoted exclusively to Wac doings, calling the whole thing, "Wacettes."

Isn't that a lovely thought? Did she really mean Wacettes? What in the name of all that's holy is, or are, Wacettes?

We rest our case.

Chapel Schedule

PROTESTANT

Midweek Service Wednesday evenings6:30 p.m.

Conference Room 12, Building 303.

Daily Services, Monday through Saturday inclusive, 8:00 a.m. in Red Cross lounge.

Sunday Service.....9:30 a.m. and, at 10:30 a.m. in Conference Room, Bldg. 303.

CATHOLIC

Sunday Mass8:30, 11:00 a.m.

Daily Mass:

Mon., Thurs., Sat.5:00 p.m.

Tues. and Fri.6:00 a.m.

Confessions Sat.....6:30-8:00 p.m.

JEWISH

Friday Services.....7:00 p.m.

Special Hannukah Services

Friday7:00 p.m.

Bars and Stripes

To First Lieutenant

2nd. Lt. Dorothy D. Dunlap.

To First Sergeant

T-Sgt. John G. Atmanchik.

To Technical Sergeant

T-3 Harold Davis.

POST THEATRE

Week of Friday, November 30.

Show for patients at 6:15 p.m.; for duty personnel at 8:15 p.m., daily.

Matinee every Sunday at 2 p.m.

FRIDAY—"Follow That Woman," with William Gargan, Nancy Kelly.

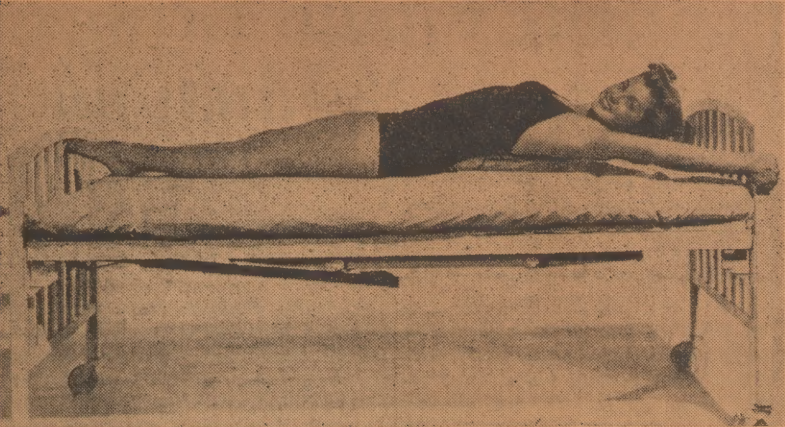
SATURDAY—"National Velvet," with Mickey Rooney, Elizabeth Taylor, Donald Crisp. (Revival.)

SUNDAY & MONDAY—"Pardon My Past," with Fred MacMurray, Marguerite Chapman.

TUESDAY—Double Feature: "Ding Dong Williams," with Glenn Vernon, Marcy McGuire; "Voice of the Whistler," with Richard Dix, Lynn Merrick.

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY—"Confidential Agent," with Charles Boyer, Lauren Bacall, Peter Lorre.

FRIDAY—"Allotment Wives," with Kay Francis, Paul Kelly.



“RAISE AND PUSH”—In the first of a series of seven illustrated exercises which will be brought to BANNER readers each week through the courtesy of physical reconditioning here, we offer the beautiful Esther Williams, swimmer and Hollywood screen star, going through the motions. This photo shows Esther assuming the starting position of the conditioning drill.

Dischargees Urged to Share Rewards of Job Aid Service

Vocational counseling, which helps patients select an occupation and then prepares them for it, shaped up this week as a major project at McGuire.

The need for counseling has become more important daily as additional patients prepare for their return to civilian life.

Capt. James Norton who supervises the work of ten trained counseling specialists, emphasized that counseling is on a strictly voluntary basis.

“It is up to the patients to make their own decisions,” he said. “We merely try to give them the correct information.”

He pointed out that the counseling service was not in the business of job placement. The patient is informed what training is necessary for a particular occupation and it is then up to the patient himself to find a job.

Seven of the ten counselors, including Capt. Norton, came to McGuire recently from Camp Pickett where they had a year's experience in counseling thousands of patients at a convalescent hospital. Two of the counselors are psychologists. Three are school teachers. Four of them are now attending a special school in New York designed to assist in the training of handicapped persons.

“We don't know all the answers and don't pretend to know them,” Capt. Norton said. “But if we haven't the information the patient wants we'll try to get it.”

Headquarters for the counseling service is the study center, ward 58, where a vocational library has been established. Counseling is a part of the reconditioning program under the direction of Major William J. Darrough, chief of educational reconditioning.

A master card on each patient seeking the assistance of the counselors is maintained. The card includes background information on the patients' education and work history, both civilian and military.

After this is compiled the work of the counselors begins in earnest with a series of private interviews with the patient. These interviews elicit various information and enables the counselor to:

1. Evaluate the patients' interests.
2. Assist the patient in the selection of educational and prevocational courses conducted by the educational reconditioning section, and makes course recommendations.
3. Provide the patient with vocational, educational and related information.
4. Assist patients in the selection of occupations.

The counselors may recommend that the patients contact other agencies such as United States Employment Service, Veterans' Administration, Red Cross or civil service.

Capt. Norton said that the counselors are now making a systematic canvas of the wards to learn if they can be of assistance to patients. Ambulatory patients, meantime, were urged to visit the study center at any time for information.

Baptist Choir to Sing

The Young People's Choir of the First Baptist Church, Richmond, will furnish special music at the 9:30 a.m. Protestant services in the chapel Sunday, December 9. The choir is directed by Miss Elizabeth Buxton.

Expert Says Souvenir Gun May Be Tricky

Military personnel who own cherished souvenirs of firearms acquired during tours of duty overseas are cautioned against firing these weapons without first checking them carefully for any defects.

In a letter addressed to Field and Stream, a sportsman's magazine, a prominent gun expert relates a tale that may be of particular interest to returnees from overseas who may possess such souvenirs.

The letter reads: “This soldier brought in a Luger to have it looked over. I started to strip the pistol. First, I find the magazine falls out, the receiver also. The action is not hooked up with the recoil mechanism. No click. The trigger bar is frozen so the firing pin will pass by and the pistol will fire full automatic. On closer inspection I find some Nazi so-and-so has fitted a very slim piece of steel with two pins and two small holes drilled above the recess for the trigger-bar, all nicely blued—and you simply cannot see this unless you examine the receiver closely.

“Next thing I discover a very fine line above the grip-plate on the left side, which looks as innocent as a scratch. I remove the grip-plate and here is the next surprise—this cut holds a bent piece of steel band leading through the receiver to the trigger outspring, and a hole has been drilled through the frame toward the magazine opening with this bar inserted, and a hook has been bent in to make it hold the nose of the cartridge down so the breech-block will hit the cartridge a good blow! Most likely the primer will get the blow from the extractor when coming back—and the one holding the pistol will thereafter have no more pistol in his hand!

“I thought it worthwhile to let you have these details as no doubt many lads coming from Europe may be bringing such “converted” Luger guns—which same lead one to think that not all the Nazi criminals are in the higher strata.”

Reports to Feature Next CRC Meeting

A financial report as well as reports from committee chairmen will be made at the monthly meeting of members of Civilian Recreation Center No. 1 next Tuesday evening in the club rooms, 601½ East Main Street.

All members holding books of tickets on the washing machine were requested by President Strigel to turn in the proceeds or the books to Page Crafford, club treasurer, at once.

The drawing will be held next Wednesday at 11 p.m., following the club's weekly bingo party.

Separation to Speed-Up for Army Doctors

Army doctors are being released faster than the Army is reducing its total strength, in spite of the large number of battle casualties still remaining in hospitals and the requirement of doctors for separation center work, according to Major General Norman T. Kirk, Surgeon General of the Army, who spoke recently in New York in appreciation of the services rendered by member hospitals of the United Hospital Fund of New York.

“The peculiar situation that we find ourselves in is that demobilization, in which everyone is concerned, cannot proceed without the help of thousands of doctors—2,000 of whom are devoting their medical services solely to separation centers,” General Kirk said. “By the first of January more than 14,000 doctors will have been returned to civilian life, which is more than one-third of the total number of doctors comprising the Army Medical Corps at its peak. By June of next year we anticipate releasing all but 11,000 doctors.”

General Kirk, stating the peak hospital load in the United States to be 318,000, pointed out that there is still a need for medical personnel and that “one of our greatest problems is to hold enough doctors in the service to give the maximum care to our patients.”

“I want to assure you,” General Kirk concluded, “that, first, the Army Medical Department is going to continue to give to the sick and wounded soldiers of this war the best medical care known to science, and secondly, that it is going to return to civilian life as rapidly as possible every Medical Department officer whose services are not essential to the Army.”

Hanukkah Holiday Starts at Sundown

Observance of Hanukkah, a Jewish holy day of deep significance this year, will be celebrated tonight in conjunction with the regular Friday evening service, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the post chapel.

Known as the Feast of Lights, the day commemorates the cleansing of the Temple of Jerusalem in 167 B.C. It is characterized chiefly by the kindling of lights in the candelabrum, specially designed for the occasion.

In present years, Hanukkah has become a joyous holiday of gift-giving. Exchange of gifts adds much zest to the holiday.

According to S-Sgt. Earl J. Rackoff, acting chaplain, the holiday is significant since it represents the revolt of the Maccabees, an ancient group of militants responsible for the restoration of the Temple. Drawing a parallel with current events, the sergeant says that the uprising was the first instance in human history of men taking up arms to defend freedom of conscience.

The public at large is invited to witness the services in the chapel.



Vets Get First Call On N. Y. Police Force

New York—Mayor-elect William O'Dwyer has announced that returning war veterans will get preference in seeking positions as city policemen.

Big Food Firms Making Up Wartime Labor Shortages

People have to eat, which simply means that a large number of men and women will be employed in the food industry during postwar periods. How many depends on the degree of prosperity we enjoy. Food purchases closely follow the volume of national purchasing power.

The big food processors such as Hormel, Swift, General Foods, and especially General Mills expect high production levels for some time to come. President Harry A. Bullis of the last named company, in his annual report to stockholders, says flatly that “the outlook is bright.”

Many of the big food companies were handicapped during the war by manpower shortages; these outfits are now making up these shortages, and some have hired veterans not formerly in their employ for the purpose.

However, the food manufacturers and distributors have a great number of employes in the service, and, naturally, they believe their first obligation is to them.

The end of the war finds half the earth hungry and with its livestock and produce decimated. So, while Army and Navy orders have been cancelled, many of the big operators in the field may be producing for export, some through UNRRA, others independently.

Wages in the food line are nothing like the sky-high salaries war workers were supposed to have received while GIs were getting \$50 per (or a little more). As vets are beginning to find out, those stories were mostly exaggeration.

According to the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, average weekly earnings in the meat-packing industry for a 46.5-hour week were \$43.43 in 1943. The average salary for meat cutters in retail stores ran from \$25 to \$35, although there are a few cases of \$75 men.

One new development in food which may affect the industry is the sale of quick-frozen foods. The prediction is that the sale of such products after the war will increase greatly. That means a change in the operations of the major food houses; it may also make the butcher in the neighborhood market primarily a dealer in packaged, pre-cut meats.

On the other hand, there are those in the trade who insist that there will still be plenty of customers who want their meat cut before their eyes, and that a frozen food locker on every other corner won't mean a thing.

As for candy making, a most important ingredient, sugar, is still tightly rationed, which means any anticipated expansion won't come until the supply of cane is plentiful. The William Wrigley, Jr., Co., of Chicago, for example, says that it doesn't know when rationing will end and is making no plans until it is sure of necessary ingredients for chewing gum.

Ex-servicemen who have the experience, training, and ability have a good chance in the restaurant business, although the chances for failure through inexperience are greater than in other lines, says Samuel R. Sperans, president of Nathan Straus-Duparquet, Inc., one of the world's largest suppliers of hotel and restaurant equipment.

According to Sperans, many people got the restaurant habit during the war, because of food or ration point shortages, and some of these will continue to eat in restaurants now that the shooting is over. Restaurant operation is a science nowadays, he continued, and a man must know menu planning, food service, mass feeding, sanitation, area layout and operation, and related subjects. If you don't think your experience at KP qualifies you to run a Main St. hash-house, better get a job in one before investing your savings.

Free Patient Bowling

Reconditioning patients were reminded this week by Capt. John Sisley, chief of physical reconditioning, that they can bowl free of charge every Thursday morning. Those desiring to bowl should report to the reconditioning office before 8:30 a.m. Reconditioning credit is given for this activity.

The number of men bowling has increased weekly. Patients are urged to form teams and leagues on their wards.

MGH Workers Attend Bond Drive Rally

Civilian employees of McGuire, at two war bond meetings Tuesday afternoon in the Red Cross auditorium, were told that it costs \$7.00 a day to maintain each patient in the hospital.

The speaker was Pfc. Leonard Asquith, a patient on ward 37. He lost his left leg while fighting with a tank destroyer outfit last spring in France and has been at McGuire for the last six months.

Citing the care of the war's injured as the principal reason for the purchase of bonds, Asquith also asserted that the money was needed for mustering out pay, for the maintenance of the occupation troops and for the reconversion of industry.

“The best way to prevent inflation is to buy bonds,” he said, “and not use surplus funds to bid up prices on commodities.”

Col. P. E. Duggins, hospital commanding officer, emphasized that bond buyers were lending and not giving away their money. He said the purchases of bonds was the best insurance possible against future “rainy days.”

The civilian employees were urged by William C. Eubank, safety engineer and director of the drive for graded workers, to maintain or increase their payroll deductions for bonds.

Miss Louise Cheatham who is directing the drive for ungraded employes, was unable to attend the meetings.

Chaplain Edward W. Eanes, assistant savings officer, explained that civilians must purchase \$18,000 worth of bonds in addition to their payroll deductions to meet their quota of \$53,429.

He said the purchase by each civilian of an extra \$18.75 bond before the drive ends December 31 would be more than sufficient to meet the group's quota.

An accounting last week showed that 56 per cent of the hospital's quota of \$98,429 had been reached. Another report will be carried in next week's BANNER which will include end-of-the-month purchases and payroll deductions.

Schedule Released For Tutor Service

A regular daily schedule of tutoring for patients seeking high school credits and diplomas was announced this week by educational reconditioning.

The tutoring is available in the study center, Ward 58, or bed patients can call Extension 358 for individual instruction on any of the scheduled subjects.

The schedule follows:

- 10 to 11 a.m.—Reading comprehension.
- 11 to 12 a.m.—English grammar and spelling.
- 1 to 2 p.m.—General science-social studies.
- 2 to 3 p.m.—Basic mathematics.
- 3 to 4 p.m.—English grammar and composition.
- 4 to 5 p.m.—General mathematics—algebra, geometry.

The tutors assigned to the study center pointed out that the new schedule should be of special interest to all men planning to take general educational development tests, as it will enable them to brush up on their weak subjects.

Patients were urged to take advantage of the tutoring service offered at the study center and complete their high school work before being discharged.

Generals Triumph While Gals Drop Hoop Opener

The McGuire Generals, their strategy working with smooth military precision, opened the local basketball season by handing their first opponents, the North Side A. C. of Richmond, a fine drubbing, 37-16, on Tuesday night at the McGuire gym.

The McGuirettes, girls' team, was less successful than the Generals, getting a trimming from the girls' team representing the Richmond athletic club. The score of that game was 32-16.

The Generals, coached by Sgt. Al Bianco, started off at a fast pace, building up the score and maintaining it without a threat from the Richmond five.

Rinaldi of the Generals was easily the outstanding player during the match. His fourteen points were more effective than Wilson's in sinking the opposition. Farris of McGuire was second high scorer for the evening with eight markers, followed closely by team captain Charlie Wolf who tolled the bell with a neat seven.

Spectators observed a few rough spots in the McGuire team's play that will be ironed out in succeeding games, according to coach Bianco.

The girls were outplayed by the North Siders and their lack of experience was the telling factor in their defeat.

Florence Andrews of McGuire accounted for half of the teams total tallies. For the Richmond team, players Covington and Nicholas each registered 12 points.

Results of last night's game between McGuire and Woodrow Wilson general hospital could not be received in time to make this edition of the BANNER.

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Saturday night the Generals face a strong team representing Randolph-Macon college in a contest to be played in the McGuire gym at 8:00 p.m.

Coached by one of Richmond's finest athletes, Taylor Sanford, the Randolph-Macon team will arrive with its team of last year intact. Pivot player Al Marindino who is going through the school on an athletic scholarship will come in for special vigilance on the part of the McGuire quintet.

Strategy will call for the Generals to use a two-man guard whenever Marindino is on the court. His deadly shooting ability, effective equally with either hand, and his shiftiness on the floor were given as the reasons for those precautions.

Following the Saturday game the Generals will remain idle until they meet the five from the Quartermaster School at Camp Lee at 8:30 p.m. in the McGuire gym, Tuesday evening.

The McGuirettes will face the girls six from the Manchester high school at 7:00 o'clock in a preliminary game.



NO TS SLIP—Cpl. Vincent A. Seeley of Beacon, N. Y., a chaplains assistant at the hospital turned in a slip to the BANNER which was good for a ten dollar bond in the football contest which closed today. Seeley had a card of thirteen out of fifteen winners which was pretty good picking in a week that saw other contestants tumble.

Brass Gets Band, Bingo Every Week

Latest dispatches from the officers club bring word that there will be a dance tomorrow night and bingo and movies on Tuesday evening.

For the Saturday night shindig, the club announces that only duty personnel and their guests will be invited to the informal hop. Music by the McGuire jug-blowers as well as free set-ups will be on tap.

Hoping to establish a tradition, the Tuesday night bingo party may become a weekly custom if patronage is as heavy as it was last week. This Tuesday, \$150 in prizes will be held out as the come-on. Customers are cautioned to be on deck at 8:00 sharp in order not to cheat themselves out of any fun. Bingo will be for members only.

Movies will be shown after the bingo game.

The board of governors of the club announces a new schedule of hours. Weekdays, the club will be open from 5:00 p.m. to midnight, with the bar shuttering at 11:30 p.m. Saturday both club and bar remain open one hour later. On Sunday the club's doors open at 2:00 p.m.

Officers on Leave Abuse Mail Rights

Officers going on terminal leave are requested to familiarize themselves with the proper procedure for the continuance of the free mailing privileges, according to the Army Postal bulletin.

"It was brought to the attention of this office," the postal directive states, "that some Army postal personnel are erroneously informing officers about to depart on terminal leave that in order to use the free mail privilege while on leave they must use their former organization or reception station as a return address."

"Rank name, serial number, branch of service, and civilian address constitute a correct return address for officers using a civilian address and desiring to use the free mail privilege while on terminal leave," the bulletin concludes.

Omaha—Bijou Kay, a strip-tease danceuse, caught her G-string in the curtain while concluding her act. Result: Six spectators were injured in the scramble.

Football Finale Brings Final Grid Predictions

It's the end of the road, at last. Excepting the various bowl games that remain to be played, tomorrow's gridiron meetings bring to a close the regularly scheduled football season.

Saturday's games, like the rest of the fall games, leave little from which to choose. On the final ballot in the BANNER, only twelve games could be found instead of the customary fifteen used to make up the card.

In most of the day's games, the selections to be made are fairly easy choices. Discounting traditional rivalry, and the in-and-out quality of the teams we break open the form books and make our predictions according to past performances.

The opener on the card brings together Alabama and Mississippi State. From here or from anywhere, it looks like Alabama can't miss.

As a spectacle the Army-Navy game will be an exciting, colorful affair. As a football game, batten the hatches and prepare for a storm. Scratch one flat-top as Army rides again.

Rice to take Baylor; Georgia to trim Georgia Tech and Clemson to crush Wake Forest, are all indicated by the season's records of the teams.

Louisiana State anticipates no hardship at all against Tulane. Loyal Virginians, suh, may well believe that their state team was upset badly by Maryland after going through an unmarred season. Virginia will recover sufficiently to beat North Carolina but not without considerable trouble.

Notre Dame closes its season in a game with Great Lakes. Let us hope

the South Benders have mercy. In a return game, Oregon faces Oregon State. State took the first of the series, but may drop the contest tomorrow. Another home and home visit brings together Southern California and UCLA. Southern will make it two in a row against the Uclans.

Closing the card, the season and this column are the final two games. Southern Methodist figures to take Texas Christian and Tennessee should win from Vanderbilt.

One-Legged Athlete Aids Rehabilitation

Washington—Walter Bura, 31, who won national recognition as an engineer and enough money to retire despite the amputation of his left leg five years ago, was named Director of Prosthetic Devices for the Veterans Administration. He'll have charge of research on artificial limbs and training of men requiring them in their use. Despite his disability, Bura walks, runs, swims, skis, shoots golf in the low 80's, goes in for fancy high diving, and pilots his own plane.

Spectator's Sports

Ed O'Toole, reconditioning track star here, has yet to break a jinx in his cross-country running this season. Four times in various meets in the East, the Brooklyn runner has placed right behind a guy named McGuire.

While Al (Bummy) Davis lived up to his nickname and reputation as one of the ring's dirtiest fighters, his death by shooting in a Brooklyn bar was a shock to fight fans everywhere. Fists are poor weapons against bullets.

Every ball player of the New York Yankees who was in the armed forces, with the exception of Johnny Lindell, Mel Queen and Charley Wensloff, will be among the 70 candidates expected to be on hand when the New Yorkers start their spring training.

Horse racing has weathered many a storm against the law with its contention that it was a sport intended to improve the breed of the swift—and, sometimes, not so swift—steeds.

At Pimlico, a trainer put in a claim against a horse, posting \$1,500 for the mare. During the race the nag fell, broke her neck and had to be destroyed. Under the rules of racing, the owner was out his dough and was stuck with the dead goat.

Before the war, the country's annual caddy bill, not including tips, for the three and a half million devotees of the links game totalled the staggering sum of seventy million dollars.

Probably the world's screwiest tennis match was played in 1770, when a Frenchman named Masson placed a barrel on the courts, climbed into it and returned each stroke by getting out and jumping back in again. Stranger yet was the fact that he won the game.

Basketball is the only major sports activity invented in this country.

Everyone knows the name of Casey, the heavy hitter who struck out at the bat when his hit was really needed. Does anyone know the name of the pitcher who fanned him?

Speaking of basketball again, the famed original Celtics were a hardy crew. For six years they averaged 125 games a season and carried only one sub, who seldom got into a game.

A little-known fact about Woodrow Wilson, World War I President, was that in 1890 he was coach of the Princeton football team. The Orange and Black eleven won all but one of fifteen games that year.

The basketball schedule for the 1945-1946 season follows:

Randolph-Macon College	Dec. 1	Home
Camp Lee QM School	Dec. 4	Home
Open	Dec. 7	Away
Bellwood Engineers	Dec. 10	Home
Hampden-Sydney College	Dec. 13	Away
Hampden-Sydney College	Dec. 18	Home
Du Pont	Jan. 4	Away
Woodrow Wilson General Hospital	Jan. 5	Away
Randolph-Macon College	Jan. 7	Away
Camp Lee QM School	Jan. 10	Home
Open	Jan. 15	Away
Du Pont	Jan. 18	Home
Bellwood Engineers	Jan. 22	Home
Unit Training Group, Camp Lee	Jan. 24	Away
Open	Jan. 29	Home
Naval Supply Depot	Jan. 31	Away
Medical College of Virginia	Feb. 5	Home
Naval Supply Depot	Feb. 20	Home

All home games scheduled for the McGuire Generals will start at 8:30 p.m. in the post gym.

Squares Cut Capers At Barn Carnival

Dress is decidedly on the informal side Thursday nite, December 6th when the Wacs will throw a real root-tootin barn dance in the men's dayroom.

M'lady's charms will be draped in fashionable fatigues, and white collar sergeants who haven't done manual labor since basic had better start dustin' off those sharp, two-pieced h.b.t. zoot suits.

The McGuire band will provide the jive, and energetic dancers can knock themselves out in a Paul Jones or groovey Lindy. Plenty of smooth stuff, too, if you just want to shuffle around romantic like.

Refreshments will be the usual kind—beer and cokes, beer and eats, and beer.

4 Pounds Shy, Boy Sweats Out Weight

Four pounds to go! And then George Tyler, 18, an attendant in Ward 30 and 31, will weigh 116—heavy enough to join the Navy.

Ever since his graduation from Richmond's Armstrong High school last spring, George has tried to enlist in the Navy but every time he received the same answer: "You're too light. Put on some weight."

So that's what George has been trying to do and he is confident he'll soon make the grade. With emphasis on bananas and milk, he has been eating heavily the last few months. He drinks at least a quart of milk every day.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Isaiah Tyler, 717 Louisiana St., Richmond. He has been a ward attendant at McGuire since June.

